GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:54
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
DIFFICULTIES IN GETTING VISAS
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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to restrictions imposed by some foreign countries travellers recently faced great difficulties in getting visas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether now some countries including UK have eased visa restrictions to help the travellers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

a & b) After the issue of travel advisories by a few foreign missions cautioning foreign travellers, the consular staff in these missions had been scaled down which led to Indian travellers facing difficulties in getting visas, particularly for first time travellers.

c&d) With the easing of such travel advisories, no fresh reports have been received of any restrictions in issue of visas to Indian travellers. The United Kingdom which had earlier restricted issue of visas to certain categories only, has also expanded the list and more travellers are getting visas to UK now.